[25th July 1952

Stationing of Special Armed Police in Tanjore district.

11 a.m. * 218 Q.—Sri P. VENKATESA SHOLAGAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether hundreds of Special Armed Police have been sent to the taluks of Mannargudi, Tiruturaipundi and Nagapattinam and some other areas in Tanjore district and have been stationed there for the past one week;

(b) the exact number of policemen so sent and the cost involved in maintaining them there, per day; and

(c) the reasons for this step?

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (a) About 160 men of all ranks of the Special Armed Police are stationed at various places in the Tanjore district.

" (b) & (c) The reasons for this step are to inculcate a sense of security and to maintain law and order. The average cost on account of the pay and allowances, and other expenses of maintenance for one company is about Rs. 470 per day."

Sri P. VENKATESA SHOLAGAR :—"தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் அமைதிக்கு பங்கம் விளைவிக்கக்கூடிய காரியங்கள் என்ன நடக்கின்றன; எதற்காக இவ்வளவு பணச்சிலவில் போலீஸ் படைகளை அனுப்ப வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறேன்."

The Hon Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்களுக்கு இது நன்றாகத்தெரியும்."

Sri T. NAGI REDDI :—" It is an important question that has been asked. People who want to put supplementary questions do not know what has taken place. So, I would request you to see that all such important questions and answers thereto, when they are not in English, are translated into English so that all hon. Members can follow them and put supplementary questions."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I have put down twenty questions for answer to-day, that is, within one hour. It will not be possible to have all questions answered within one hour if every Tamil or Telugu supplementary question is to be translated into English. It is not therefore possible to translate them into English. If the hon. Member persists, I shall have no alternative except to put only four or five questions for answer every day."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" In view of the fact that landlords, instead of going to civil courts to find a solution to their land disputes, are using the Special Armed Police for forcibly evicting the peasants from the land, will the Government consider the question of removing the Special Armed Police stationed in Tanjore district from that place? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The premise of the hon. Member is not correct. The landlords cannot get the assistance of the Police to evict anybody. In fact, the grievances of the tenants are that the landlords go to the civil courts and get decrees far too easily."

25th July 1952]

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" The Hon. the Chief Minister was telling us that the hon. Member who put the main question knew the exact details of the breach of law and order in the district concerned. May I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to explain, for the information of the entire House, what the causes are, due to which there were breaches of peace and order in the district? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I did not refer to any breaches of the peace, but I understand the present question, Sir. Conditions in Tanjore district on account of the present agrarian discontent on the one hand, and the reforms expected on the other, are very well-known and there is a certain amount of confusion and a certain amount of uncertainty in all matters. Hence, we have to take measures for security's sake."

Sri K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" May I know what is the use of having Police there instead of taking ameliorative measures? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is the ameliorative measures that are giving rise to the confusion and uncertainty that I referred to."

Sri M. C. MUTHUKUMARASWAMY :—" தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் அதிகமான போலீஸ் இருப்பதன் காரணம் என்ன ? அங்குள்ள ஹரிஜனங்களை அடக்குவதற்காகவா ? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" May I answer in English, Sir? Some hon. Members believe that question time should be converted into one for debate and that they should follow every question and every answer; whereas, I humbly submit that interpellations and answers thereto should be got ready on their own merits, and they should not depend upon one another as they do in a debate. I must point out that the assumption that more Police are kept in Tanjore than in any other place is not correct. There is an agrarian situation in Tanjore which is peculiar and we do not want it to develop into disorder. The Police are not intended to put down Harijans, Sir, unless indeed the Harijans are misled into disorder."

Sri P. RAMAMURTHI :—" Is it not a fact that Police are sent precisely on the report made by mirasdars, particularly, Mr. Kunniyur Sambasiva Ayyar, to places where land is leased out? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is not true. I do not wish that hon. Members should make personal allegations of this kind where the other person is not here to defend himself. But I say that the Police are under the direct and immediate control of the District Magistrate."

Sri C. V. K. RAO :—" On a point of order, Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister has accused some of us that we want to convert the question hour into one for debate. I wonder whether the Chair shares this view. I would, therefore, want a ruling on this question."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The Chief Minister has not accused any Member."